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The first record of the tribe Cephenniini in South Africa, with new species of *Cephennomicrus* Reitter and *Cephennodes* Reitter (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Scydmaeninae)

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Abstract

The tribe Cephenniini is recorded for the first time in the Republic of South Africa. Five new species are described and illustrated: *Cephennodes* (s. str.) *lucipetus* sp. n., *C.* (s. str.) *zulunatalensis* sp. n., *C.* (s. str.) *mtubatubanus* sp. n., *C.* (s. str.) *sodwanaensis* sp. n. (all from KwaZulu-Natal Prov.), *Cephennomicrus ubomboensis* sp. n. (KwaZulu-Natal), *Cm. endroedyi* sp. n. and *Cm. transkeianus* sp. n. (from Eastern Cape). A distributional summary of continental Afrotropical *Cephennodes* and *Cephennomicrus* species is given, and taxonomic and evolutionary problems are indicated.

Key words: Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Scydmaeninae, Cephenniini, *Cephennodes*, *Cephennomicrus*, new species, Afrotropical, South Africa

Introduction

Afrotropical ant-like stone beetles of the tribe Cephenniini are exceptionally poorly known, and to date only three genera (out of 18 currently known; see Jałoszyński 2011a, 2012a) have been reported to occur in Africa south of Sahara and from the Indian Ocean islands. Eleven species of *Cephennodes* Reitter occur in Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, eastern Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania (Schaufuss 1889; Cauchois 1955; Besuchet 1962; Castellini 2007, 2008; Jałoszyński 2010a); 22 species of *Cephennomicrus* Reitter are known to occur in Tanzania, eastern Congo, Madagascar and islands of the Indian Ocean (summarized in Jałoszyński (2009a), with one later addition in Castellini (2007)); and most recently a new genus, *Pomphopsilla* Jałoszyński with two species was described from Kenya (Jałoszyński 2011a). Among *Cephennomicrus* the majority of Afrotropical species are known from Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion Is., Grand Comoro Is. and the Seychelles, and only two representatives of this genus were recorded from continental Africa. All continental Cephenniini inhabit localities in central-western (from the SW coast of Sierra Leone to central Nigeria) or central-eastern (from eastern Congo to Zanzibar) part of Africa. Most of them were either revised or described recently (Jałoszyński 2008a, 2010a, 2011a; Castellini 2007, 2008) and their aedeagi, crucial for identifications, were illustrated. An exception is *Cephennodes ruandae* Cauchois, 1955, known from a single and partly damaged specimen with missing abdomen. However, this species has a remarkable body shape, with strikingly broad pronotum (Jałoszyński 2010a; Fig. 3) and new specimens can be identified on the basis of external characters. Two species described by Castellini (2007, 2008) need a revision, as their aedeagi were illustrated in a simplified and inaccurate way. Some of their structures (e.g., the general shape of median lobe and especially its apical part) are certainly useful for identifications. Some other details (the exact shape of apical projections, the number and arrangement of parameral setae) are too simplified or unclear, and the oval membranous area of the median lobe was entirely omitted (Castellini 2007; Figs. 1–2; 2008; Fig. 22). The latter author in his works also ignores the current subgeneric system of *Cephennodes* (and any other genus of Scydmaeninae).

Among the three Afrotropical genera of Cephenniini, the most interesting from the evolutionary and taxonomic point of view seems *Cephennodes*. Oriental and East Palaearctic species of this genus are fairly well-